

MEMORANDUM

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 23, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: DR. KISSINGER

Thomas Fenton, reporting from Paris, had the following account in a recent issue of the BALTIMORE SUN:

Harold Kaplan, a U.S. spokesman, confirmed that the Administration has not ruled out replacement of the Thieu government by a caretaker coalition government which could conduct new elections in South Vietnam. The political arrangements of the Vietnamese settlement are for negotiation between the South Vietnamese concerned.

After reading this, the President addressed this comment to you:

"Henry -- have this knocked down flatly, and right away."

ALEXANDER P. BUTTERFIELD